

# A New Species of *Anachis*

(Gastropoda : Columbelloidea)

## from the Eastern Pacific

BY

R. A. WHITNEY

2140 North Main Street, Decatur, Illinois 62526

(2 Text figures)

I HAVE EXAMINED numerous specimens of *Anachis* over the past year, and have encountered a species of *Anachis* from the Eastern Pacific region which has not been previously described. This species is seen with some frequency in several of the larger institutional collections as well as in private collections.

Through the interest and generosity of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, I have been able to examine a number of this *Anachis* species, and locality records as well as geographical range can be reported here. These are recorded here immediately following the listing of paratypes. I have assigned the new species to the genus *Anachis*, and, in order not to add confusion to the taxonomic problems in the family Columbelloidea, I have avoided the use of other supraspecific taxa, leaving this to a future investigator who might make the necessary anatomical studies to complete a monograph on the Columbelloidea of the Eastern Pacific.

*Anachis lillianae* Whitney, spec. nov.

(Figures 1, 2)

**Description:** Size small; color white with light to deep brown markings; whorls somewhat convex with body whorl inflated; axial sculpture predominant over entire shell; nucleus of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  glassy whorls; 6 post-nuclear whorls; axial ribs wider than interspaces with ribs on penultimate and earlier whorls having keel-like ridge running down center of each rib; keeled appearance not so much in evidence on body whorl as ribs become less pronounced and more rounded; intercostal striae between ribs impinging on ribs but not crossing center of ribs; 15 ribs on body whorl; basal portion of body whorl has spiral cording; parietal wall of aperture smooth; outer lip of aperture with 6 weak denticles inside lip; deep-brown band anterior to suture forms white subsutural band; deep-brown band broken, giving irregular zig-zag appearance; base of shell marked with irregular cloudings, blotches, and streaks of light brown; anterior canal short; length 7 mm; diameter 3 mm; 6 whorls plus nucleus.



Figure 1

Holotype, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History  
Type No. 1852. Dorsal view × 13

**Holotype:** Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History, Type Collection No. 1852.

**Type Locality:** All specimens of the type material were collected at Playa Alicia near San Felipe, Baja California, Mexico, under rocks at low tide, March 1976.

**Paratypes:** Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History Type collection no. 1847; Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Type Collection no. 344375; Douglas and Sherry Welker collection no. 6; R. A. Whitney collection no. 37.



Figure 2

Holotype, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History  
Type No. 1852. Ventral view X 19

**Other Material Examined:** In addition to the type lot -- Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History no. 67-17 - Libertad, Sonora, Mexico; no. 11833 - San Blas, Nayarit, Mexico; no. 11834 - Bahía Adair, Sonora, Mexico; no. 63-56 - Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico; no. 30-74 - Mazatlán, Mexico; no. 59-9 - Topolobampo Bay, Mexico; all intertidal. Also no. 72-58 - 30-75 ft. (9 - 22.5 m), rocky, small islets off Punta Quepos, Puntarenas Province, Costa Rica, 9°52'43" N; 84°09'41" W.

**Discussion:** There is little variation among the specimens examined of this species. The shell has a striking color pattern and varies in the number and intensity of brown blotches that comprise the subsutural bands. The variation in color markings is especially marked at the base of the body whorl, where the brown markings may appear as streaks, dots, or cloudings. The number of axial ribs on the body whorl varies from 14 to 17.

*Anachis lillianae* bears some superficial resemblance to other species which should be considered in making identifications. A very closely related species is *A. adelinae* (Tryon, 1883). This species differs from *A. lillianae* in

having a distinct checkerboard pattern of brown spots on the base of the body whorl, and in the spire being more attenuated. *Anachis albonodosa* (Carpenter, 1857) is light brown with white spots showing at the ends of the axial ribs; it is a somewhat smaller shell, with the body whorl being less inflated than *A. lillianae*. *Anachis dalli* Bartsch, 1931 is pale yellow with 2 zones of interrupted brown spots and 1 of white; *A. pygmaea* (Sowerby, 1832) has a distinct pattern of 2 or 3 rows of brown spots; *A. diminuta* (C. B. Adams, 1852) could possibly be mistaken for an immature *A. lillianae*, but the brown shell of *A. diminuta* is 4 mm or less in size.

The new species is named in honor of Mrs. Lillian Whitney of Decatur, Illinois, in appreciation of her encouragement of, and assistance in, the author's study of Columbellidae.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am sincerely grateful for the generous cooperation given me over a period of many months by the individuals who have contributed so much of their time towards the completion of this paper. I wish to express my thanks to Dr. James H. McLean of the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History for his advice, and to Mr. Gale Sphon, also of the Los Angeles County Museum, for arranging a loan of museum specimens for comparative studies. I also wish to acknowledge the excellent photographs of the holotype by Mr. Bertram C. Draper, Museum Associate, Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

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